Thursday, November 20, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 48

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with TECHLINE, Austin, TX for fiber optic patch panels in an amount not to exceed \$54,600.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Terry Nicholson, Senior Buyer, 322-6586.

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid meeting specification of three bids received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

The contract is for 26 fiber optic patch panels for use in Austin Energy's electrical substations for "Local Area Network" (LAN) communications. The patch panels are required for housing cable connections that allow the technicians to monitor, interconnect, and test circuits without the expense of dedicated switching equipment. The estimated completion date for installation of these panels is March 2009.

MBE/WBE solicited: 13/8 MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition
- b. Four hundred twenty-four notices were sent, including 13 MBEs and eight WBEs. Three bids were received, with no response from the MBE/WBEs.
- c. This is the first purchase of its type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bid received meeting specifications.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Energy's recommended award.
- c. Advertised on the Internet.